



**Stainton with  
Hemlington, Hilton,  
and Brookfield  
13th June 21  
2nd after Trinity**

**Welcome to worship  
at home-**

**Thought for the day**

From small beginnings and by God's power, the Kingdom of Heaven grows.

*Susan Sayer*

**Collect**

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel. Ch 17.22-24**

22 Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

23 On the mountain height of Israel

I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest

winged creatures of every kind.

24 All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,

I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken;

I will accomplish it.

**Psalm 92.1-4, 11-14**

**R It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord.**

1 It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

2 To tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning and of your faithfulness in the night season;

3 On the psaltery and on the lyre and to the melody of the harp.

4 For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

11 The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

12 Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God;

13 They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

14 That they may show how upright the Lord is, my rock, in whom there is no fault.

**A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians. 5.6-10, 14-17**

Brothers and sisters,

6 we are always confident;

even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord –

7 for we walk by faith, not by sight.

8 Yes, we do have confidence,

and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

9 So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

10 For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ,

so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

14 The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died.

15 And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way.

17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

## **Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. ch4.26-34**

Such a large crowd gathered around Jesus that he got into a boat and began to teach them using many parables.

26 Jesus said,

'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,

27 and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how.

28 The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head.

29 But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

30 Jesus also said,

'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it?

31 It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; 32 yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them,

as they were able to hear it;

34 he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

## **Intercessions**

Father God, we approach your throne of grace with our concerns, our burdens and our thanksgiving for all your people throughout the world. Help us to put our trust in you and in our Saviour Jesus Christ who

taught us that you love us as a parent and want only what is right for us.

So we pray for the Christian Church and for ourselves as members of our local church. We extend our prayers to the church throughout the world and especially to churches in places where religious faith is suppressed or where Christianity is an unwelcome minority. **Lord in Your mercy. – 'Hear our prayer'**

Creator God we pray for our world which seems to be forever guilty of violence and conflict. We pray for the innocent victims and their families caught up in conflicts which are not of their making. We remember the people of Afghanistan facing uncertainty as foreign troops withdraw and people of Tigre facing a real threat of starvation, We pray for world leaders, and for a positive outcome from the G7 summit in Cornwall this week.

We also pray for our local community leaders and for all in public office dealing with difficult situations and especially for those dealing with the on going Covid situation. **Lord in Your mercy. – 'Hear our prayer'** Gracious God we pray for our children and young people as they near the end of another academic year. Be with those who are beginning important examinations at school and university and those starting new lives in the world of work. Help us, through our Christian life to create a society where both young and old, gifted and less able feel valued and proud to be a part of society.

**Lord in Your mercy. – 'Hear our prayer'**

Loving God we think now of those in need in our own community and further afield; the elderly, the housebound and those in care homes, hospital and hospice. We also remember the victims of violence, abuse or cruelty. We give thanks for all those who care for the sick within the family, and for all our medical and voluntary services.

**Lord in Your mercy. – 'Hear our prayer'**

We pray for those who face the pain of grief at the loss of a loved one. Help us to support all those who

mourn, both with our prayers and with practical help both this day and in the days and weeks to come.

We remember before God those who have died and ask that those bereaved by their passing are aware of the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings so much hope.

**Lord in Your mercy. – 'Hear our prayer'**

Lord we ask you to lead us into the coming week, Help us to believe that you are close by us, keep us from making mistakes and help us never to disappoint you. When we face hard decisions or difficult work, when we enjoy ourselves and have fun with others may we know that you share these times with us.

Merciful Father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**

Let us join with Christians the world over to say the Lord's Prayer ...

God is in charge and can work in all kinds of ways and through all kinds of people whom we may not choose. He goes on working when we are on holiday, ill or asleep; though we are important in the growth of the kingdom the whole thing will not fall apart whenever we are not personally involved.

Whenever we sow the seed of God's love or his word in someone's heart, God will continue his work of growth there using all the circumstances of that person's experience to develop the growing. And what begins so small can grow beyond our imagining.

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